

From: Elizabeth Bauer <elizabeth607@ecentral.com>  
Sent: Friday, November 4, 2022 8:04 PM  
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: Dogs on Merrill Springs Park

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Commission Members,

Please allow dogs back in Merrill Springs Park. I love walking down to the park with my rescue dog but am upset that I can no longer walk to the lakefront with her. It's s lovely place for both of us to be.

The people who walk their dogs in the neighborhood are very respectful and keep their dogs on leash as well as pick up after them. Please open this park up to dogs again.

Thank you,  
Elizabeth Bauer

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**From:** Jeff Bauer <jeffreycbauer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 4, 2022 8:17 PM  
**To:** Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** alice erickson <merrillsprings@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Support for dogs in Merrill Springs Park

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I strongly support removing the blanket exclusion of dogs from Merrill Springs Park (MSP). The presence of dogs will improve the overall quality of the MSP experience, subject to the same regulations that prevail in City parks where dogs are allowed (e.g., owner keeps dog on on leash and cleans up after the dog). The surrounding neighborhood is extremely dog-friendly, and dog owners uniformly make sure that their dogs do not engage in any behaviors that would harm people without dogs. In particular, I note that a large number of dogless people we meet on our daily dog walk to the edge of MSP want to pet our dog and would surely enjoy being able to interact with her in the park. I can also assure you that any dog owners in this area would keep their dogs away from anyone who asked not to near them. MSP would be a nicer place with dogs than without. There's no valid reason to retain the no-dog policy.

Jeff Bauer

1137 Minocqua Crescent (one block from MSP)

Member, Friends of Merrill Springs Park

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